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英文自修经典读本

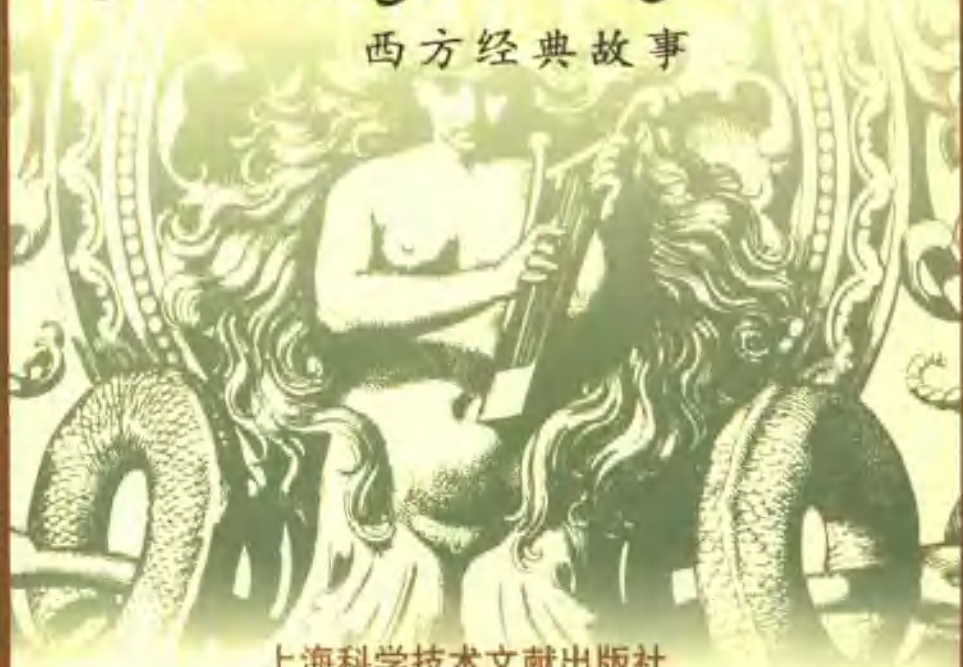


# 泰西50轶事

英汉双语

## *Fifty Famous Stories Retold*

西方经典故事



上海科学技术文献出版社



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(英汉双语)

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FIFTY FAMOUS STORIES RETOLD

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西方经典故事

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BY JAMES BALDWIN

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[美] 詹姆斯·鲍德温 著  
盛仰红 余翔 译

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童话、寓言、神话、历史故事、名人传奇是每个民族文化记忆中的核心内容。它们以口承和文字形式代代相传绵绵不绝，既延续着一个个历久弥新的故事与文本的记载，同时也传递着一种精神的力量。不论何时何地，这些被众人耳濡目染的片断，总是以各种形式在儿童们的心灵中浸润滋养，在青年人的胸扉里哺育激荡，在中年人的脑海中回味咀嚼，在老人们的长叹中引人深思……古往今来，令人难忘的传说与往事常常就是这样慢慢地如清泉般流入人们的心田，渐渐地成为人们喜闻乐见的经典，化为人格的精神动力。

在西方国家，人们非常重视少年儿童的教育，大量的少儿读物中，詹姆斯·鲍德温编写的《Fifty Famous Stories Retold》和《Thirty more Famous Stories Retold》是受到人们普遍喜爱的两本书。这两本书的内容主要取材于西方著名的历史故事，名人轶事和民间传说，都是人们关注的传统题材和内容。先行问世的五十个经典故事由于内容生动活泼，文字通俗优美，很快成为畅销书。之后，在读者们的强烈要求下，鲍德温又续编了三十个经典故事，成为两本珠联璧合的名作，一直传诵不绝。诚然，书中的故事对人们早已是耳熟能详，但优秀的读本却能把零散的记忆断章集聚成智慧的殿堂，令几代人流连忘返。

鲍德温编写的这两部读本为许多国家少年儿童所共享。在中国，同样以它独特的作用影响了众多的读者。20世纪前半叶，鲍德温编的这两本书曾以英语教材的形式流行于大江南北。兼有“读本”和“课本”的双重





阅读价值。

1922年“新学制”颁布后，我国教育从原先模仿日本为主转为模仿英美为主，明确规定从初中起设置外语教学课程。而这时期的英语教材则是良莠不齐，无法适应教学的需要。因此，许多学校纷纷采用《Fifty Famous Stories Retold》和《Thirty more Famous Stories Retold》作为课本。当时书名译为《泰西五十轶事》和《泰西三十轶事》。1921年和1922年商务印书馆与中华书局分别出版了这两本书的英文版。启明书局等也明确地将其作为英文自修读本推出了英文原版和中英对照本供学校选用。当时人们选用这两本书作教材的共识主要是文辞优美，故事引人入胜，内容具有教育意义，有助于培养少男少女们的高尚情操。

从“读本”到“课本”，这两本书对中国读者的影响是积极有益的。作为语言学习的课本，普惠于几代莘莘学子，而作为通俗的文学读本，又为人们学习和了解西方文化提供了一个窗口，是我们的前辈求学经历中难以忘怀的两本书，在许多名人的传记与回忆中常常提到这两本书的作用。所以当时有人说：“读过英文的人，没有不读过《泰西五十轶事》和《泰西三十轶事》的。”

近几年，以加强大中小学生素质教育和人文修养为名编印的“读本”如过江之鲫，令人目不暇接。但被人称道者却了了无几，转瞬即逝。鲍德温的成功使我们看到，经典读本的诞生与认同，不仅在于内容的经典性和表达的完美性，而且要蕴含文化的理念和价值，让人们得到人文的熏陶。也许我们可以从中得到有益的启示，编出能为当代中国青少年所喜爱的经典读本。

半个世纪过去了，昨日的经典仍然不失它的光彩。这两本书的重译出版，再一次让今天的年轻读者体验昔日畅销书的魅力。我们相信，回归的经典依然芬芳隽永，传统的读本仍能读出新知。让我们打开本书，重温一个个经典的故事吧！

黄显功

2005年6月于上海图书馆

THESE are numerous time-honoured stories which have become so incorporated into the literature and thought of our race that a knowledge of them is an indispensable part of one's education. These stories are of several different classes. To one class belong the popular fairy tales which have delighted untold generations of children, and will continue to delight them to the end of time. To another class belong the limited number of fables that have come down to us through many channels from hoar antiquity. To a third belong the charming stories of olden times that are derived from the literatures of ancient peo-





ples, such as the Greeks and the Hebrews. A fourth class includes the half-legendary tales of a distinctly later origin, which have for their subjects certain romantic episodes in the lives of well-known heroes and famous men, or in the history of a people.

It is to this last class that most of the fifty stories contained in the present volume belong. As a matter of course, some of these stories are better known, and therefore more famous, than others. Some have a slight historical value; some are useful as giving point to certain great moral truths; others are products solely of the fancy, and are intended only to amuse. Some are derived from very ancient sources, and are current in the literature of many lands; some have come to us through the ballads and folk tales of the English people; a few are of quite recent origin; nearly all are the subjects of frequent allusions in poetry and

许多历史悠久的故事已经融入了文学和我们民族的思想,有关这些故事的知识是人类教育中不可缺少的部分。这些故事有不同的几种类型:一类是民间流传的神话,曾给世代代的孩子们带来乐趣,并继续给他们的余生带来快乐;另一类是少量的寓言,通过各种途径从远古时代流传至今;第三类是古代的迷人故事,这可以追溯到古老民族的文学作品,比如希腊人和希伯来人;第四类包括了显然是来源于晚期的半传奇式的故事,其主题是著名的英雄和名人的人生,或是一个民族历史中的传奇经历。

本书的五十个故事大部分属于最后一类。因此这些故事是著名的,广为人知的。有些故事具有历史价值,有些故事能够说明某些崇高的道德真谛,另有一些故事仅仅是想象的产物,预期目的只供娱乐。有些故事必须追溯到古老的源头,曾经流传在许多地

prose and in the conversation of educated people. Care has been taken to exclude everything that is not strictly within the limits of probability; hence there is here no trespassing upon the domain of the fairy tale, the fable, or the myth.

That children naturally take a deep interest in such stories, no person can deny; that the reading of them will not only give pleasure, but will help to lay the foundation for broader literary studies, can scarcely be doubted. It is believed, therefore, that the present collection will be found to possess an educative value which will commend it as a supplementary reader in the middle primary grades at school. It is also hoped that the book will prove so attractive that it will be in demand out of school as well as in.

方的文学作品中；有些通过英国人的民谣和民间故事流传至今；也有些是来源于近代，其主题几乎是在诗歌、散文和受过教育的人们谈话中常见的典故。我们谨慎地排除了任何不能严格地在可能性范围内成立的故事，所以本书没有擅自闯入童话、寓言和神话的领域。

孩子们自然会对这样的故事深感兴趣，没人能拒绝这些故事。不用怀疑，阅读这些故事不仅能给人带来乐趣，还能为更广泛的文学知识的学习打下基础。因此可以相信，本书是富于教育价值的，值得被推荐作为学校里中低年级的补充读物。同时，还可以期望，本书将被证明是如此富有吸引力，在校外和在校内一样为孩子们所需要。





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MANY years ago there lived in England a wise and good king whose name was Alfred. No other man ever did so much for his country as he, and people now, all over the world, speak of him as Alfred the Great.

In those days a king did not have a very easy life. There was war almost all the time, and no one else could lead his army into battle so well as he. And so, between ruling and fighting, he had a busy time of it indeed.

A fierce, rude people, called the Danes, had come from over the sea, and were fighting the English. There were so many of them, and they were so bold and strong, that for a long time they gained every battle. If they kept on, they would soon be the masters of the whole country.

At last, after a great battle, the English army was broken up and



许多年前,英格兰有一个贤明的国王叫做阿尔弗雷德,他对国家的贡献无人能比。现在,全世界的人都称他为阿尔弗雷德大帝。

在那时,作为一个国王,他的日子过得并不轻松。几乎随时都有战争,除了国王,没有人能领导军队去作战。于是,他一方面要统治国家,一方面又要打仗,真是非常忙碌。

有一个叫做丹麦的凶猛的原始民族,穿过海洋来攻打英格兰。他们人数众多,而且勇敢强壮,因此很长一段时间里每战必胜。如果这样继续下去,他们将成为整个英格兰的主人。

后来,经过一场很大的战役之后,英格兰军队被打败了,并溃散而逃。每个人都不得不竭尽所能地逃命。阿尔弗雷德国王也匆





scattered. Every man had to save himself in the best way he could. King Alfred fled alone, in great haste, through the woods and swamps.

Late in the day the king came to the hut of a wood-cutter. He was very tired and hungry, and he begged the wood-cutter's wife to give him something to eat and a place to sleep in her hut.

The woman was baking some cakes upon the hearth, and she looked with pity upon the poor, ragged fellow who seemed so hungry. She had no thought that he was the king.

"Yes," she said, "I will give you some supper if you will watch these cakes. I want to go out and milk the cow; and you must see that they do not burn while I am gone."

King Alfred was very willing to watch the cakes, but he had far greater things to think about. How was he going to get his army together again? And how was he going to drive the fierce Danes out of the land? He forgot his hunger; he forgot the cakes; he forgot that he was in the

忙出逃，一个人穿过了树林和沼泽。

到了傍晚时分，国王来到一个樵夫的小屋前。他又累又饿，于是请求樵夫的妻子给他一点东西吃，并给他一个地方睡觉。

那个妇人正在炉子上烘饼，她同情地看着这个衣衫褴褛的可怜人，他看起来真是饿极了。她怎么也不会想到他就是国王。

"好吧，"她说，"如果你能看着这些饼，我就给你一些晚餐吃。我要出去挤牛奶。你一定要看好了，在我出去时别把饼烤焦了。"

阿尔弗雷德国王很愿意看着那些饼，但是他有更为重大的事要考虑。他怎样才能把他的军队重新召集到一起来？他又怎样才能把那些凶恶的丹麦人赶出国土？他忘记了饥饿，忘记了饼，也忘了自己是在樵夫的小屋里。他的脑海里在忙碌地制订着明天的计划。

没过多久，那个妇人回来了。饼在炉子上冒着烟，它们已经被烤成焦块了。啊，她是多么生气啊！

wood-cutter's hut. His mind was busy making plans for tomorrow.

In a little while the woman came back. The cakes were smoking on the hearth. They were burned to a crisp. Ah, how angry she was!

"You lazy fellow!" she cried. "See what you have done! You want something to eat, but you do not want to work!"

I have been told that she even struck the king with a stick; but I can hardly believe that she was so ill-natured.

The king must have laughed to himself at the thought of being scolded in this way; and he was so hungry that he did not mind the woman's angry words half so much as the loss of the cakes.

I do not know whether he had anything to eat that night, or whether he had to go to bed without his supper. But it was not many days until he had gathered his men together again, and had beaten the Danes in a great battle.

“你这个懒鬼！”她叫了起来，“看看你都做了什么！你想吃東西，却又不想干活！”

我听说她甚至用一根树枝抽打国王，但我很难相信她的脾气竟然有那么坏。

国王一定会笑他自己竟然被人这样责骂，他太饿了，以至于对失去饼的关注更胜于那妇人愤怒的言语。

我不知道那天晚上他究竟有没有吃到东西，也不知道他是否没吃晚餐就上床睡觉了。但是没过几天，他就重新召集起他的麾下将士，在一场重大的战役中击败了丹麦人。

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阿尔弗雷德(公元849年—899年)，英格兰国王。在位期间，创建了海军，并创制了英格兰法典。

阿尔弗雷德国王与饼





At one time the Danes drove King Alfred from his kingdom, and he had to lie hidden for a long time on a little island in a river. One day, all who were on the island, except the king and queen and one servant, went out to fish. It was a very lonely place, and no one could get to it except by a boat. About noon a ragged beggar came to the king's door, and asked for food.

The king called the servant, and asked, "How much food have we in the house?"

"My lord, said the servant, "we have only one loaf and a little wine."

Then the king gave thanks to God, and said "Give half of the loaf



有一次，丹麦人把阿尔弗雷德国王赶出了他自己的王国，他不得不在河心的一个小岛上躲了很长一段时间。

一天，除了国王和王后，还有一个侍从之外，岛上所有的人都外出打鱼去了。那是一个很荒凉的地方，只有乘船才能到达。大约到了中午时分，一个衣衫褴褛的乞丐来到了国王的门前讨东西吃。

国王叫来他的侍从，问道：“我们的屋子里还有多少食物？”

“我的主人，”侍从说，“我们只有一块面包和一点酒了。”

然后国王向上帝感恩祷告了一番，说道：“把一半面包和一半的酒给这个可怜的人。”

侍从照他的吩咐做了。那乞丐感谢了国王的仁慈，又继续赶

and half of the wine to this poor man.”

The servant did as he was bidden. The beggar thanked the king for his kindness, and went on his way.

In the afternoon the men who had gone out to fish came back. They had three boats full of fish, and they said, “We have caught more fish today than in all the other days that we have been on this island.”

The king was glad, and he and his people were more hopeful than they had ever been before.

When night came, the king lay awake for a long time, and thought about the things that had happened that day. At last he fancied that he saw a great light like the sun; and in the midst of the light there stood an old man with black hair, holding an open book in his hand.

It may all have been a dream, and yet to the king it seemed very real indeed. He looked and wondered, but was not afraid.

“Who are you?” he asked of the old man.

路了。

下午，出去打鱼的人们都回来了。他们打了满满的三船舱的鱼，并且说：“自从住到这岛上来之后，今天打的鱼比以往任何一天都要多。”



阿尔弗雷德国王躺在河心的一个小岛上。

国王很高兴，他和他的臣民比以前更加充满了希望。

当夜晚来临之后，国王久久不能入睡，想着白天发生的事情。后来，在恍惚中，他看到一束很强的光线，就像太阳光一样。在那







“Alfred, my son, be brave,” said the man; “for I am the one to whom you gave this day the half of all the food that you had. Be strong and joyful of heart, and listen to what I say. Rise up early in the morning and blow your horn three times, so loudly that the Danes may hear it. By nine o’clock, five hundred men will be around you ready to be led into battle. Go forth bravely, and within seven days your enemies shall be beaten, and you shall go back to your kingdom to reign in peace.”

Then the light went out, and the man was seen no more.

In the morning the king arose early, and crossed over to the mainland. Then he blew his horn three times very loudly; and when his friends heard it they were glad, but the Danes were filled with fear.

At nine o’clock, five hundred of his bravest soldiers stood around him ready for battle. He spoke, and told them what he had seen and heard in his dream; and when he had finished, they all cheered loudly,

束亮光中站着一个黑头发的老人，手上拿着一本打开的书。

这一切都像一场梦，然而对国王来说又是那么真实。他惊讶地看着，但是并不害怕。

“你是谁？”他问那个老人。

“阿尔弗雷德，我的孩子，要勇敢，”那人说，“我是今天你把全部食物分了一半给我的那个人。要有坚强和乐观的心情，听我说吧。明天一早就起床，把你的号角吹响三次，要很大声，让那些丹麦人都能听到。在九点的时候，会有五百个人围着你，准备跟随你去战斗。勇敢地前进吧，七天之内你的敌人就会被打败。你将回到自己的国家，和平地治理着它。”

然后光线消失了，那人也不见了。

到了早晨，国王起得很早，渡河到了大陆上。接着，他把号角大声地吹响了三次。当他的朋友们听到时都很高兴，而那些丹麦人却充满了恐惧。